

## NECROLOGY

**John William Ferguson, Jr.**, died tragically in a drowning accident while fishing in Piedmont Lake March 9, 1973, at the age of 61, only six days after retiring as Director of Wheeling Field Station of the Environmental Protection Agency. His death ended a long illustrious career spent in natural resources and conservation and extending over 40 years that were crowded with enthusiastic work in professional, civic, and personal activities.

Mr. Ferguson was born July 10, 1911, in Greencastle, near Green City in northern Missouri, where he was graduated from high school. In 1939 he completed his Bachelor of Science degree in agricultural engineering at the University of Missouri, and for a number of years thereafter he was a forester with the United States Forest Service in Missouri. He also worked with the Soil Conservation Service in that state. In World War II he served with the United States Naval Reserves as a lieutenant.

Mr. Ferguson worked for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources before taking the position of Director of the Wheeling Field Station of the Environmental Protection Agency. He was a member of the American Forestry Association, and in 1973 he joined the Ohio Academy of Science, Conservation Section.

His honors include: Honorary Alumnus of the School of Natural Resources of The Ohio State University, Honorary State Farmer Degree awarded by the Future Farmers of America, Distinguished Service Award by the Soil Conservation Society of America, and the Meritorious Service Award by the State of Ohio.

He is survived by his wife, Martha, his mother, two sons and a daughter, and four grandchildren.

**James G. Haub**, Professor Emeritus of Zoology, The Ohio State University, died November 21, 1972, at the age of 65. His death came only a few weeks after his retirement terminated 40 years dedicated to teaching.

Dr. Haub was born in Racine, Wisconsin, March 26, 1907. His undergraduate work was in the Department of Education with a major in biology at Capital University, where he received his Bachelor of Science degree in 1929. He continued graduate work in biology at The Ohio State University, receiving his master's degree in 1931 and his Ph.D. degree in 1937.

One of his early professional assignments was as an administrator at the Carroll, Ohio, high school. He began his teaching career at Ohio State in 1932 as a teaching associate and attained the rank of professor in 1958; he held this rank until his retirement with Emeritus status October 1, 1972.

Dr. Haub was primarily a teacher, sincerely directing his efforts to presenting the principles of biology to large classes of general college students. His teaching style was exceedingly effective; his lectures were clear, quiet, and unassuming, displaying his dry wit and personal enthusiasm. In the interest of students crowded into large classes he was among the first educators to utilize television, although use of the impersonal electronics violated his custom of personal concern with the individual student.

His membership in many societies, scientific, professional, and honorary, and his long list of publications in the field of vertebrate zoology, including a widely used zoology textbook (coauthored with Dr. D. F. Miller) are evidence of his active interest in biological research and scientific achievements. He joined the Ohio Academy of Science, Zoology Section, in 1937 and was elected a Fellow in 1946.

Dr. Haub is survived by his wife, Juanita, his son, and two sisters.

**Raymond E. Lamborn**, a long-time geologist with the Ohio Geological Survey, died in Columbus May 28, 1972, at the age of 82. He had been retired from the Survey since 1956 after serving that organization for 27 years.

Mr. Lamborn was born in Beloit, near Alliance, Ohio, November 12, 1890. He received the Bachelor of Arts degree from The Ohio State University in 1915 and a master's in geology from Ohio State in 1917. He served in the Signal Corps of the United States Army during World War I, and after the war he was appointed Instructor in Geology at Ohio State. He interrupted his teaching to study geology at Yale University during 1921 and 1922. In 1927 he left Ohio State to spend another year at Yale, after which he returned in 1929 to The Ohio State University campus as Assistant Geologist with the Geological Survey in Ohio. He was promoted to Geologist in 1949 and retired in 1956.

In 1922 Mr. Lamborn married Helen Morningstar, well known for her work in Ohio paleontology. The Lamborns worked diligently together as a man-and-wife geological team until Mrs. Lamborn's untimely death. Mr. Lamborn's many friends remember him as a quiet, unassuming, constant worker both in the field and in the office. He was a familiar figure bent over a drafting table, his eyes shielded by a green eyeshade, turning out prodigious amounts of painstaking work. He was a faithful and dependable assistant to and coworker with Wilbur Stout, the State Geologist at that time.

The many geological publications to Mr. Lamborn's credit include such major contributions as bulletins on the geology of Tuscarawas, Coshocton, Jefferson, and, with Wilbur Stout,

Columbiana Counties. He has written several other bulletins and many papers on such special subjects as coal, clay, gas and oil, ground water, and limestone in Ohio.

Mr. Lamborn was a member of the Institute of Mining, Metallurgical, and Petroleum Engineers. He joined the Ohio Academy of Science, Geology Section, in 1924, and was elected a Fellow in 1929. In 1972 he was granted emeritus status.

Surviving Mr. Lamborn are his son and daughter, seven grandchildren, and his sister-in-law, Charlotte Morningstar.

**James M. Landis**, Assistant Professor of Health and Education at the University of Dayton, met an untimely and tragic death when his small plane crashed near Dayton June 15, 1972. He was 46.

Professor Landis had taught in the West Carrollton schools and had served as Coordinator of Instructional Materials for the Montgomery County Board of Education. He was a graduate of the University of Dayton and received postgraduate degrees from Miami University (of Ohio) and the University of Michigan. In 1964 he was appointed Instructor in Biology at the University of Dayton and in 1968 was made Director of Audio-Visual Aids in the School of Education; he held this responsibility until his death.

He was active in a number of professional organizations. He became a member of the Ohio Academy of Science, Science Education Section, in 1969.

He is survived by his wife.

**Bruno Sachs**, Chief Project Engineer of the Doehler-Jarvis Division of NL Industries, died March 19, 1972, in Toledo, Ohio, at the age of 59.

Dr. Sachs was born in Vienna, Austria, in 1913. After graduating from the University of Vienna with a degree in Mechanical Engineering, he immigrated to the United States in 1939 and became a citizen. He continued his engineering studies at the graduate level at Columbia University and earned a doctorate in metallurgy, specializing in die-casting processes.

He held a number of executive positions in the metallurgical and die-casting fields and secured several patents. Just prior to his employment by Doehler-Jarvis, he was President of the Hamilton Die Casting Corporation in New Hyde Park, New York.

Dr. Sachs was a member of Sigma Xi and belonged to several societies in his field. He became a member of the Ohio Academy of Science, Science Education Section, in 1968.

Surviving are his wife and daughter, his mother, his brother and sister, and two grandsons.

**William Sellner**, whose long career as civil engineer, surveyor, conservationist, ornithologist, city planner, and artist, extended over many years, suffered a fatal heart attack on October 7, 1972, while attending a football game at the College of Wooster. His age was 72.

He was born in New York, New York, January 5, 1900, and educated in New Haven, Connecticut, with certification in Drafting Art and Trade. During World War I he served as a map specialist in the analysis of transportation problems associated with the defense of the Eastern United States Coastal Region. He served in World War II as an instructor for the American Red Cross.

Mr. Sellner's work as a surveyor, construction engineer, and land-management planner included projects of federal and state government agencies, corporations, and municipalities; he made major contributions in the areas of Loudonville, Millersburg, and Mansfield. During the 1930's he was involved in the work of the Civilian Conservation Corps. From 1958 on he was established as a consulting engineer, surveying and drafting maps and plans for innumerable projects, including architectural designs for many types of public buildings. Every Sunday for 20 years Mr. Sellner painted and lettered by hand posters depicting the titles of sermons at the First Presbyterian Church of Loudonville. The insistent demand for his talents precluded his retirement.

Mr. Sellner's professional and scientific memberships included the Connecticut Society of Civil Engineers, the Ohio Society of Professional Engineers, the Columbus Audubon Society, and the Ohio Academy of Science, Conservation Section, which he joined in 1969. He was awarded a Patron of Conservation certificate by the National Wildlife Society in 1960.

His wife, Beatrice, two daughters, and six grandchildren survive, together with his two brothers.

**Willard E. Singer**, retired Professor of Physics and Chairman of the Department, Bowling Green State University, died March 18, 1972.

Dr. Singer was born May 2, 1904, in Bexley, Ohio, where he received his college preparatory education at the Capital University Academy. He graduated from Capital University in 1925 with a Bachelor of Science degree and continued at The Ohio State University, receiving a Bachelor of Electrical Engineering degree in 1926 and a master's degree in 1927.

Dr. Singer joined the faculty of Bowling Green State University as Instructor in Physics and advanced through the ranks to Professor and Chairman of the Department, during which time he completed his doctorate in Physics at Ohio State, receiving the degree in 1948.

At Bowling Green he held a number of positions on faculty and administrative councils over a period of 30 years. He served as a member of the Board of Higher Education of the

American Lutheran Church for six years, and for 20 years he was a member of the church's Board of Publications. He retired from teaching February 1, 1969.

Dr. Singer was honored by memberships in Sigma Xi, Eta Kappa Nu (electrical engineering), Sigma Pi Sigma (physics), and Gamma Alpha. He held memberships in four scientific societies and served as Chairman of the Ohio Section of the American Physical Society in 1948-49. He joined the Ohio Academy of Science in 1952, affiliating with the Physics and Astronomy Section, and was elected a Fellow of the Academy in 1961.

Dr. Singer's wife, Irene Vogel Singer, survives.

**Albert C. Smith**, retired Professor of Pharmacy and Dean of the College of Pharmacy, Ohio Northern University, died August 12, 1972, at the age of 66.

Dr. Smith was born in Monroeville, Ohio, November 10, 1906. He enrolled in the College of Pharmacy at The Ohio State University, and after graduating in 1929 he continued at Purdue University, where he earned his master's degree in 1931 and his doctorate in 1942. He was a registered pharmacist in Ohio and Indiana.

After holding an assistant professorship at the University of Tennessee for a few years, he became Professor of Pharmacy and Biochemistry at Ferris Institute, Big Rapids, Michigan. In 1944 he joined the faculty at Ohio Northern University as Professor of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, a position which he held until the year of his death. He served as Dean of the College of Pharmacy at Ohio Northern for ten years, 1952-1962.

Dr. Smith was a member of three honorary societies, including Sigma Xi, and belonged to six scientific organizations. He joined the Ohio Academy of Science, Medical Science Section, in 1965. He is listed in *Who's Who in America*, *Who's Who in the Midwest*, *American Men of Science*, *Who's Who in American Education*, and in *Methodism*.

Dr. Smith is survived by his wife.

**Herbert A. Toops**, retired Professor of Psychology, The Ohio State University, died at Bemidji, Minnesota, August 12, 1972.

Dr. Toops was a native of Ohio and received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Ohio State. His Ph.D. degree was conferred by Columbia University, where for a number of years he held the position of Research Associate of the Institute of Educational Research.

During World War II Dr. Toops was a consultant for the United States War Department, the National Roster of Scientific and Specialized Personnel, and the National Research Council. He was the author of many psychological and educational publications and was well known for his work in psychological statistics, psychometrics, and educational research. He was accorded international recognition as a specialist in testing, having developed the Ohio State Psychological Examination taken by thousands of students enrolling in universities in all parts of the country.

Dr. Toops was a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Psychological Association and a member of many professional and scientific societies. He joined the Ohio Academy of Science in 1919, affiliating with the Anthropology and Sociology Section. He was elected a Fellow of the Academy in 1924 and was granted Emeritus status in 1967.

Surviving are his wife, Laura, three sons, two daughters, and 12 grandchildren. His brother and three sisters also survive.

**E. Eloise Witwer**, Professor Emeritus of Biology, Bowling Green State University, and an alumna of the Flying Tigers, died at her home in Portage, Ohio, February 16, 1973, at the age of 71.

Miss Witwer was graduated from Grand Island College, Nebraska, and received her master's degree from the University of Nebraska in 1926. Her illustrious teaching career began in 1927 when she taught all eight grades in a one-room schoolhouse in Nebraska. Later she taught high school English and biology in Tilden, Nebraska.

In 1930 she joined the faculty at the University of Burma in Rangoon, where she taught until she was forced to flee before the Japanese troops when they invaded Rangoon in 1941. She drove the last truck over the Burma Road before it was blown up to prevent its use by the Japanese. She then joined the Flying Tigers in China, where she was a civilian employee of the United States Army working for General Chennault. She became a member of the 14th Air Force Association and attended many reunions of the Flying Tigers around the world.

After the war Miss Witwer lectured for a year at Meredith College, Raleigh, North Carolina. In 1946, she became a member of the faculty at Bowling Green State University, where she taught biology for 26 years, retiring with the rank of Professor Emeritus in 1972.

Miss Witwer was a member of the Ohio Biology Teachers Association and served as a secretary of that organization. She joined the Ohio Academy of Science, Zoology Section, in 1947, and was an active member for 25 years. She was elected a Fellow in 1963 and was accorded an Honorary Life Membership in 1972. As a dedicated worker with the Junior Academy from 1966 to 1971, she directed the Northwest District Science Day held annually at Bowling Green for high school students. In 1968 she became Editor of the *Ohio Academy of Science News*, retiring from that office in September 1971. Her enthusiastic activity in the Junior Academy stimulated many high school students to continue their studies in the sciences at the college level.

The Necrology Committee regrets the necessity of reporting the death of **Dr. William H. Schneider**, a member of the Academy since 1966, without an obituary. Failure to receive biographical data precluded preparation of a notice. Inquiries were sent to his Springfield, Ohio, address, but no response has been received. The Committee requests that anyone able to supply information about Dr. Schneider send it to the Ohio Academy of Science, 445 King Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43201, so that a report may be included in the Necrology for 1974.

Submitted by the Necrology Committee

W. F. HAHNERT  
CLARA WEISHAUP  
RALPH H. BOND, *Chairman*

**Lands beyond the Forest.** *Paul B. Sears.* Prentice-Hall, Inc., Englewood Cliffs, N.J. 1969. 206 p. \$7.95.

This is a book on grasslands, but it is far more than that. It is a documentary of man's attempts to come to terms with his environment. Man's evolution initially led him out of the forest and out onto the plains. "So important to man is the open landscape that as soon as his techniques permitted he addressed himself to enlarging it at the expense of forest" (p. 21); "trees became his rivals" (p. 37). "Both the domestication of plants and the grazing of animals, strictly speaking, were made possible by open landscapes" (p. 48). The "taming of large-seeded grasses made possible intensive cultivation and great economy of space, leading to the formation of villages and ultimately of cities" (p. 43), and the "sedentary nature of cereal cultivation not only made possible the establishment of larger communities but as we have noted, gave leisure to develop organization and arts" (p. 45). As is evident in these quotations, the entire book is presented in Sears' unique, easy-to-read, pleasant style, which is at the same time rich in penetrating and meaningful content.

The scientific background of grasslands and of other tree-free areas (such as the Everglades of Florida and the tundra of mountain tops and the Arctic) is not ignored. Indeed one chapter is devoted to a discussion of the grass plants themselves, a masterfully readable presentation of what could have been very dull to those with limited scientific backgrounds. Dr. Sears agrees that "most grasses look alike to the average person, or enough so to discourage closer acquaintance" (p. 66), but goes on to describe with great charm the nature and evolution of these amazing plants and their tiny individual flowers, and their stems whose "growth and vigor do not suffer when their leaf tips are bitten or cut off" (p. 16). He also examines the reasons given by others for the development of grasslands—fire, grazing, fine-textured soil, and climate—and, while admitting the contribution of the first two, and perhaps the third reasons, acknowledges the major control of climate. Not only is rainfall less in these areas, but evaporation is much greater.

The Pleistocene record is also discussed, both in terms of the palynological record, to which Dr. Sears has earlier made such significant contributions, and also of the complex inter-relationship, throughout the Pleistocene, of plants, animals, and evolving man. The warm, dry period of 3500 years ago, during which "there was a maximum of warmth and dryness which for a time enabled prairie life from the West to extend well into the forest zone" (p. 11), is also noted, its effects being recorded both in the modern plants of Ohio's "prairie peninsula" and in some of the pollen records. According to Sears, this was not unlike, though it was far more intense than, the drouth of the 1930's that created the Dust Bowl; thus does this perceptive author again tie in grassland histories and human development.

The real message of Dr. Sears' book is not the story of the grasslands *per se*, although he presents a magnificent survey of their character, distribution, evolution, and importance. Rather, it is a warning to man, as he has evolved from the original forest hunter to the sedentary agriculturalist of the plains, and finally to the modern city dweller, that the rules of nature are still the rules of life. In the modern conflicts of man with man, particularly in the complicated environment of the city, characterized by social, economic, and political pressures, an understanding of the natural world in which we have evolved and from which we still obtain the essentials for life is critical. "In two short generations we have emerged from the personal confrontations and relative simplicities of village and town life into a world of speed, noise, number, anonymity, and infinite complication" (p. 178). Sears concludes: "Man, who emerged from his ancestral forests into a long day in the open sun only to return to shadows of his own creation, now has the chance to emerge again, providing he does not ignore the lessons of his long past in making use of his new knowledge" (p. 94).

This is a book on grasslands; this is a book on man; this is a book by the inimitable Paul B. Sears, rich in his penetrating perception regarding the critical contribution to be played by environment on man. No concerned scientist or modern conservationist should be without it.

JANE L. FORSYTH